



JULY 7, 2005

HEALTH ALERT

Terrorism Threat Level for Mass Transit Systems Raised to Orange in United States

At 10:45 a.m. CST on July 7, 2005, U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff announced that the Homeland Security Advisory System level has been elevated to orange with respect to mass transit systems, which includes regional and intercity rail (subway) and bus systems. This does not include commercial rail, air transportation or maritime transportation (ferry systems). Amtrak has its own internal threat level system and will adjust accordingly.

In response to this announcement, please review security and notification procedures. Vigilance continues to be required by individuals, governments, businesses and industry. The North Dakota Department of Homeland Security asks that you report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement or State Radio at 800.472.2121.

Information about chemical, biological and radiological emergency response can be found at the following websites.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Emergency Preparedness and Response

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov>

North Dakota Department of Health

North Dakota Health Alert Network

<http://www.ndhan.gov/>

Radiological Emergencies

Radiological emergency response:

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/index.asp>

Chemical Emergencies

Emergency room procedures for chemical hazards:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/demil/articles/initialtreat.htm>

Managing chemical incidents:

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/mhmi.html>

Information about hazardous chemicals:

<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

Biological Emergencies

Information about biological agents:

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/agentlist.asp>

Emergency Contact Phone Numbers

North Dakota Department of Health – 701.328.2270

After hours (State Radio) – 800.472.2121

Information about the Homeland Security Advisory System and the threat levels can be found on the Internet at www.dhs.gov.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.